



Your Energy Connection

Rocky Mount Public Utilities



Public Power...An American Tradition

Have you ever counted the number of electrical outlets in your home? There are probably three to six in most rooms with most of them feeding appliances that keep you "plugged in" throughout your days and nights.

However, despite our ever-present outlets, cords, and appliances, electric service is something we take for granted. Here are three facts about your electric service that may start you thinking a bit more about it, especially during this time when energy use and energy independence have become a national issue.

Public Power Makes a Difference

Rocky Mount Public Utilities is a "public power" electric utility, and that makes a difference in your life. It means that our city operates the utility as a community enterprise, allows all citizens to take part in making decisions about utility services.

Public power is an American tradition that works in more than 2,000 communities across the country, and has worked here in Rocky Mount for over 100 years. The people working for the utility are the friends and neighbors of the community.

Another advantage is local, hometown service. When you call us with a question or to ask for help, we're right here, ready to respond right away.

You Have Control Over Your Electricity Use

You can make a difference – to the planet, our nation's energy independence, and in your electricity bill – just by thinking a little more about your electricity use and changing your habits in small ways. Whether you live in a house or an apartment, simple things -- like setting your thermostat for energy efficiency or using a programmable thermostat, turning off lights when you leave a room, cooking efficiently, dressing for the weather, or caulking and weather-stripping – can reduce your overall electricity use significantly. Winter will be here soon. Did you know that about half of your electricity bill goes toward your heating and cooling costs? We have programs and information to help you gain control over your electricity use this winter and year round. Contact our Human Relations department at 972-1181 to schedule an energy audit or see the *Energy Depot* online energy audit on the utilities website at:

utilities.rockymountnc.gov. The Human Relations department can also assist you with assistance programs in the community for customers needing financial assistance with their utility bills.

We're Working on an Energy-Efficient Future

We're planning for an energy efficient future that will continue to provide reliable electricity to our homes and businesses in an environmentally responsible way.

As you know, the U.S. Congress is debating how it should legislate the reduction of greenhouse gases through penalizing their production, by promoting energy efficiency, and developing cleaner power generation technologies.

There are also debates across the country about how many new power plants and transmission lines will be needed to serve our growing population and economy. There are further questions about costs and environmental considerations for building different kinds of power plants.

Here in Rocky Mount, our power sources are nuclear and coal from plants Rocky Mount has ownership. Our goals for the future are to continue to pursue the best and cleanest technology available and provide a variety of energy efficiency programs to reduce the need for new generation. We know we face a lot of challenges, but we believe we are positioned pretty well to meet the future.

As part of the American Public Power Association (APPA), which represents our interests in Washington, D.C., our public power system advocates national policies that will hold down prices, increase energy independence and security, protect the environment, and promote energy efficiency. With other public power systems, we endorse legislation to control greenhouse gas emissions, but have asked Congress to consider the economic impact on consumers and the economy. We also emphasize the importance of federal research and development programs to help create new technologies that will be needed.

Through APPA, we also support proposals to improve federal regulations for how wholesale electric power is bought and sold in order to create reliable, lower-cost power supplies.

BEAT THE PEAK

“Peak” or “Peak Demand” is the greatest amount of electricity used at one time by an electric system, normally when a large number of customers are using appliances at the same time. By controlling the electric load or load management, we can keep electric costs in control.

Rocky Mount averages approximately less than 10 days per month load managing.

There are several options available:

Electric Water Heater Control

Water heaters are cycled off during load management periods. Controlling water heaters will not affect the amount of hot water available.

Customers receive \$2.00 credit each month.

Electric Heat Strip Control

Heat strips are controlled during the winter load management periods, while compressors continue to provide heat. Customers receive \$15.00 credit each month if the temperature falls to 25 degrees or below on a non-holiday weekday.

Central Air Conditioning Total Control

Customers receive \$20.00 credit each month for three months during the summer months. The compressor is turned off for the entire load management period.

Fans will continue to circulate the cool air in your house, but your compressor will not generate any new cool air.

There are no installation or maintenance charges associated with this program.

Call 972-1284
for more information.



Public Power and Public Natural Gas Week October 7—13, 2007

Join Rocky Mount Public Utilities
at the
Down East Festival of the Arts
to Celebrate
October 13th
10 am to 6 pm

Rocky Mount Public Utilities will
be set up on Nash Street across
from Station Square

Visit utility employees for energy
conservation ideas, kids games,
and giveaways

See our bucket trucks and learn
about electric and natural gas
career opportunities

972,
RMPU
1278

Call
Rocky Mount Public Utilities
(RMPU) for all your
Energy Services

For more information about Rocky Mount Public Utilities
see our website at: utilities.rockymountnc.gov